

Cook, Kevin

From: Menzies, Lois
Sent: Tuesday, March 10, 2015 3:53 PM
To: Cook, Kevin
Subject: Orr -- Public Comment

From: Jan B Newman MD FACS [<mailto:jan@sightsoflight.com>]
Sent: Monday, March 09, 2015 3:24 PM
To: MT Supreme Court,
Subject: 4th District Judge

To Whom it may concern,

I am writing in support of Thomas Orr's application for the 4th District judge seat. I have known Tom as a client and friend for a number of years and have referred an number of people to him for legal work. He is a knowledgeable diligent attorney who always assesses the merits of an action. I have never seen him take on work or suggest actions solely to get a paycheck. There is no question that he is working for justice and has always does his homework. The people whom I have referred to him have been equally satisfied with his wise counsel.

Personally I would hate to have him leave private practice as he would be very difficult to replace, but I believe he would greatly benefit the citizens of the 4th District achieve justice. I can recommend him without equivocation.

Sincerely

Jan B Newman MD, MA, FACS, ABIHM
3436 Mountain Dr
Clinton, MT 59825
406-258-6824
406-544-0006



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3011 American Way, Missoula, MT 59808
ERALAMBROS.COM

March 10, 2015

Lois Menzies
Office of the Court Administrator
P.O. Box 203005
Helena, MT 59620-3005

RE: District Court Nomination

Dear Lois,

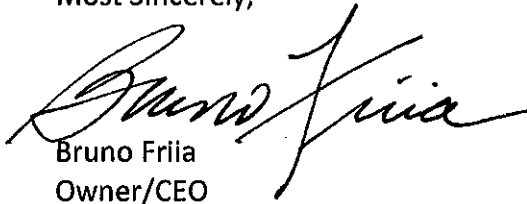
I would like to highly recommend Tom Orr for the seat that has opened in the Fourth Judicial District Court. Tom will bring over two decades of legal experience, knowledge, and professionalism to the position and would, in my honest opinion, make an excellent judge.

Tom has been a practicing attorney since 1990 and has a great deal of experience handling cases related to family law, real estate law, and business transaction law. We have used Tom for my businesses for over a decade and are always quick to recommend him to clients and friends.

Tom is not only knowledgeable and competent but also compassionate. His high level of integrity and ethical conduct will undoubtedly be of great benefit if he is granted a judicial seat.

That is why I, without hesitation, wholly recommend and support Tom Orr as the new judge for the Fourth Judicial District Court.

Most Sincerely,


Bruno Friia
Owner/CEO



IHESS

P.O. Box 3104

Missoula, Montana 59806

T 406.544.1682

mark1@hazmat.net

www.hazmat.net

March 10, 2015

Judicial Nomination Commission
c/o Lois Menzies
Office of Court Administrator
PO Box 203005
Helena, MT 59620-3005

Dear Committee,

I would like to endorse Mr. Tom Orr for Judge replacing the retiring District Court Judge Ed Mclean. I have known Mr. Orr for 15+ years on a personal and business basis. I believe Tom would well represent the position in an ethical, honest and straight forward fashion. Mr. Orr is a caring knowledgeable and is an upstanding member of our community. Please call if you need.

Mark Hlebichuk CIEC

Industrial Hygienist

Certified Indoor Environmental Consultant-ACAC

National Advisory Board-ACAC

From: [Menzies, Lois](#)
To: [Cook, Kevin](#)
Subject: Orr -- Public Comment
Date: Thursday, March 12, 2015 5:40:07 PM

From: Puhrmann, Kai [mailto:kai.puhrmann@umconnect.umt.edu]
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 3:18 PM
To: MT Supreme Court,
Subject: Tom Orr Nomination

To Whom it May Concern,

I am writing in support of Tom Orr in his application to be considered for the open judgeship in the Fourth Judicial District Court. I have known Tom for several years and have hired him on several occasions for legal work and consider his legal knowledge and ethics to be second to none. Dealing with him on a professional and personal level has inspired me to pursue my own career in law, and with his encouragement, I am now in my second year of law school. I appreciate being given the opportunity to comment, and it is my sincere hope that the Judicial Nomination Committee will make a recommendation to the Governor for Mr. Orr to be appointed.

Respectfully,

Kai N. Puhrmann
Juris Doctorate Candidate, 2016

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From: [Menzies, Lois](#)
To: [Cook, Kevin](#)
Subject: Orr -- Public Comment
Date: Thursday, March 12, 2015 5:40:33 PM

From: Don Stoen [mailto:donstoen@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 4:11 PM
To: MT Supreme Court,
Subject: Nomination of Thomas C Orr to Fourth Judicial District Court Judge

To: Lois Menzies

Dear Commission Members:

It is with great pleasure and honor that I recommend the appointment of Thomas C Orr to fill the vacancy created by the retirement of Judge Ed McLean.

I have the highest regard for him both personally and professionally. I for one cannot think of anyone more suited to the job. In his capacity as my attorney, I was greatly impressed by his honesty and integrity. For example during my case he listened to me very carefully but was still able to point out that I was incorrect in some of my assumptions.

Based on Tom's determination, fairness and experience, I strongly recommend him for District Court Judge

Sincerely,

Don Stoen
Florence, MT

Geoff Badenoch
336 South 5th St. East
Missoula, MT 59801

March 13, 2015

Lois Menzie
Office of Court Administrator
P.O. Box 203005
Helena, MT 59620-3005

Dear Ms. Menzies,

I am writing in reference to Thomas Orr's application for appointment to the position of District Court Judge in Missoula County.

I have known Tom Orr for over twenty years and consider him a close personal friend. During the period of our friendship I have known Tom to be a hard-working and persistent advocate for justice. We first met when he was appointed an Assistant Municipal Attorney for the City of Missoula. In my estimation, Tom worked hard not only in prosecuting cases, but looking for solutions to problems to keep them from having to be litigated. As a citizen, I always appreciate when conflicts can be resolved short of going to court.

More recently I have watched Tom work for his clients to find non-litigious solutions to their problems, saving them time, money and aggravation, not to mention saving the court from expense of its time and resources that can be spent on more serious problems.


It is not to say that Tom is not a vigorous advocate for his clients when the situation demands it. Most recently, Tom successfully litigated a case that took nearly ten years to resolve and required two trips to the Montana Supreme Court. His opponent in this case was the City of Missoula, a party with way more resources than Tom had at his disposal, and yet Tom had faith in his clients' position under the law, prosecuted the case with good reasoning and tireless advocacy. This was clearly a "David v. Goliath" situation and Tom used his skill and talent to his clients' ultimate vindication.

Tom has also demonstrated unselfish commitment to the community having served on the Missoula County School Board, the Missoula Urban Transportation Board and the Board of the Missoula Housing Authority. All these positions are voluntary and do not come with any compensation, a clear example of Tom's dedication to public service.

For as long as I have known Tom, he has spoken of his dream of ultimately serving on the bench. He loves the law and the perpetration of justice.

I hope you and the Committee will give Tom Orr's application to serve as District Court Judge your careful and complete consideration.

Sincerely yours,



geoffb@ism.net

406.360.7532

State of Montana



Lewis and Clark County Courthouse
228 Broadway, Second Floor
Helena, MT 59601
(406) 447-8205 or 447-8209
(406) 447-8421 (Fax)

First Judicial District Court

Broadwater County Courthouse
515 Broadway
Townsend, MT 59644
(406) 266-9236
(406) 266-4720 (Fax)

March 16, 2015

Judicial Nomination Commission
c/o Lois Menzies
PO Box 2003005
Helena MT 59620-33005

Ladies and Gentlemen:

It is my pleasure to write this letter of recommendation on behalf of my former law clerk Tom Orr. Tom has applied to fill the vacancy about to be created by the retirement of Judge Ed McLean of Missoula.

I have known Tom for a number of years, as he was my second law clerk. During Tom's tenure with me, I found him to be a very intelligent, hard-working young man. I could always count on his research as being top-notch, and his writing skills were excellent. Since Tom left Helena for Missoula several years ago, I have been following his career from afar and have been pleased to have seen him doing well as an attorney.

I believe Tom would be an excellent district court judge. He is intelligent, thoughtful, and patient. These are essential characteristics for a good district judge.

If anybody has any questions about Tom, please feel free to give me a call at the number noted above.

Best regards,


JEFFREY M. SHERLOCK
District Court Judge

JMS/tbd

Cook, Kevin

From: Menzies, Lois
Sent: Tuesday, March 17, 2015 2:27 PM
To: Cook, Kevin
Subject: Orr -- Public Comment

From: Michael Conner [<mailto:bigskyconner@centurylink.net>]
Sent: Tuesday, March 17, 2015 9:50 AM
To: MT Supreme Court,
Subject: District Court Nomination

Dear Lois,

My name is Michael Conner and I am the owner of Architectural Wood Products and Environmental Fire Science. I would like to add my voice in support of Tom Orr who is running for the seat in District Court.

I've known Tom for 25 years and would like to say that his friendship, experience and wisdom as a lawyer has been a true asset to me personally and professionally. Tom is a true professional and his contributions, not only to my company, but to his community is why I recommend Tom for this position. Fairness, understanding and compassion, these are qualities Tom lives by every day in his personal life and in his practice.

Respectfully,

Michael Conner